

and the many other small business associations that have helped us find solutions, demonstrating great cooperation in a difficult position, to help small businesses.

The letters follow:

LINDEN INTERNATIONAL,  
Wayne, PA.

Hon. JOHN KERRY,  
*Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SENATOR KERRY: I would greatly appreciate your support of the 7a program "rescue". I favor the following to help me and many other small businesses rebound and re-grow:

1. Allow piggyback loans, and charge a 0.50 percent lender fee.
2. Raise lender fees by 0.10 percent.
3. For loans under \$150,000, have lenders pay the SBA the 0.25 percent fee that the lender now keeps for themselves.

We all are keening for help to re-establish ourselves and assure a firm foundation for the future of small businesses in the US.

Sincere thanks,

Very truly yours,

MARY KAY HAMM,  
*President and CEO.*

MARCH 11, 2004.

Hon. JOHN KERRY,  
*Ranking Member, Senate Small Business Committee, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SENATOR KERRY: I am a small business owner in North Little Rock, AR and a member of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO). I understand that a package is before the Senate Small Business Committee that may be brought up as early as next week in the whole Senate concerning the SBA 7(a) program.

Absent the SBA asking Congress for additional funding, NAWBO supports increasing fees on lenders as an approach to adequately funding the SBA 7(a) program and lifting restriction. Specifically, NAWBO would like the program to:

Allow piggyback loans, but charge a 0.50 percent lender fee for each.

Raise lender fees by 0.10 percent.

For loans that are under \$150,000, have lenders pay the SBA the 0.25 percent fee that lenders currently keep for themselves. This only applies to these small loans.

Senator Kerry, we would appreciate your support of our position. Can we count on you? Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

TJUANA C. BYRD,  
*Attorney at Law.*

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN THAT WAS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12957—PM 73

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

#### *To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the Iran emergency is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2004, to the Federal Register for publication. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on March 14, 2003 (68 Fed. Reg. 12563).

The crisis between the United States and Iran constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of Iran, including its support for international terrorism, efforts to undermine Middle East peace, and acquisition of weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them, that led to the declaration of a national emergency on March 15, 1995, has not been resolved. These actions and policies are contrary to the interests of the United States in the region and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Iran and maintain in force comprehensive sanctions against Iran to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 10, 2004.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 339. An act to prevent legislature and regulatory functions from being usurped by civil liability actions brought or continued against food manufacturers, marketers, distributors, advertisers, sellers, and trade associations for claims of injury relating to a persons's weight gain, obesity, or any health condition associated with weight gain or obesity.

H.R. 2391. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, to promote research among universities, the public sector, and private enterprises.

H.R. 2714. An act to reauthorize the State Justice Institute.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment:

S. 1881. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to make technical corrections relating to the amendments by the Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act of 2002, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 373. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Kids Love a Mystery is a program and promotes literacy and should be encouraged.

At 2:46 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3717. An act to increase the penalties for violations by television and radio broadcasters of the prohibitions against transmission of obscene, indecent, and profane material, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3915. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through April 2, 2004, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 15. Concurrent resolution commending India on its celebration of Republic Day.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 7(b)(1) of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (42 U.S.C. 15606), and the order of the House of December 8, 2003, the Speaker appoints the following member on the part of the House of Representatives to the National Prison Rape Reduction Commission: Mr. Pat Nolan of Leesburg, Virginia.

At 6:26 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 98. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate.

#### MEASURES REFERRED—MARCH 10, 2004

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3536. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 210 Main street in Malden, Illinois, as the "Army Staff Sgt. Lincoln Hollinsaid Malden Post Office"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3537. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 185 State Street in Manhattan, Illinois, as the "Army Pvt. Shawn Pahnke Manhattan Post Office"; to the Committee on Government Affairs.